



Los Angeles County AUDIT COMMITTEE

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ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

September 21, 2010

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

9 September 21, 2010

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

SUNSET REVIEW FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Requesting approval to extend the sunset review date for the Los Angeles County Commission on Local Governmental Services.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Extend the Los Angeles County Commission on Local Governmental Services' sunset review date to December 1, 2014.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On December 1, 1994, the Audit Committee submitted its initial report in response to your Board's instruction to review the effectiveness of County commissions, committees and task forces defined under Chapters I and IV of the Los Angeles County Committee Book. Consistent with your Board's instructions, the Audit Committee is submitting the results of the evaluation of the Los Angeles County Commission on Local Governmental Services (Commission) performed by the Auditor-Controller, and recommendations from Audit Committee for further action by your Board.

The Commission examines intergovernmental jurisdictional alternatives for local governmental services in the County with the goal of providing better, more responsible and cost-effective services to the public. The Commission reviews topics suggested by Commission members, the appointing authorities or other agencies. The Commission also makes recommendations to intergovernmental

jurisdictional agencies, and monitors and reports on the status of implementing these recommendations. Although the Commission's average attendance was low, from January 2007 to September 2009, the Commission met 27 times and successfully fulfilled its duties.

During the review period, the Commission accomplished the following; 1) facilitated the transition of 911 cellular phone calls from the California Highway Patrol to local emergency response agencies; 2) Established a task force to improve procedures for issuing taxicab permits; and 3) Recommended an upgrade to the County's real estate asset management information system.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Commission members do not receive compensation and the Executive Office of the Board estimates they provided approximately \$15,000 in supplies, parking and staff support in the 2008-09 Fiscal Year.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Commission meets monthly and has 21 members, representing business, labor, academic, minority and community interests, appointed as follows:

- Two by each Supervisor;
- Two by the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles;
- Three by the President of the Los Angeles City Council;
- One each by the Independent Cities Association, California Contract Cities Association and the League of California Cities; and
- Three ex-officio members, one appointed by each of the Los Angeles County (County) Chief Executive Officer, the County Sheriff and the Los Angeles City Police Department.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The Commission's objectives for the coming period are as follows:

- Coordinate with municipalities to recommend processing post-recycle solid waste into useful products, such as green fuels and renewable energy. This will reduce waste, landfill usage, greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel usage;
- Encourage unincorporated areas in the County to support Assembly Bill 222 to promote low-cost biofuels and green power; and
- Develop best practices for green building standards (i.e., new construction that is water and energy efficient) for the cities in the county.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Louisa Ollague". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Louisa" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Ollague".

LOUISA OLLAGUE
Chair

LO:tpk

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Chair, Los Angeles County Commission on
Local Governmental Services



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
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WENDY L. WATANABE
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

MARIA M. OMS
CHIEF DEPUTY

ASST. AUDITOR-CONTROLLERS

ROBERT A. DAVIS
JOHN NAIMO
JUDI E. THOMAS

August 5, 2010

TO: Audit Committee

FROM: Wendy L. Watanabe
Auditor-Controller

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wendy Watanabe", is written over the printed name and title.

SUBJECT: **SUNSET REVIEW FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION
ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES**

RECOMMENDATION

The Audit Committee recommend to the Board of Supervisors to extend the Los Angeles County Commission on Local Governmental Services' sunset review date to December 1, 2014.

BACKGROUND

The Los Angeles County Commission on Local Governmental Services (Commission) was established by the Board of Supervisors (Board) on August 23, 1977. The most recent sunset review extension was approved by the Board in September 2009.

The Commission examines intergovernmental jurisdictional alternatives for local governmental services in the County with the goal of providing better, more responsible and cost-effective services to the public. The Commission also reviews topics suggested by Commission members, the appointing authorities or other agencies. The Commission also makes recommendations to intergovernmental jurisdictional agencies, and monitors and reports on the status of implementing these recommendations.

The Commission meets monthly and has 21 members, representing business, labor, academic, minority and community interests, appointed as follows:

- Two by each Supervisor
- Two by the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles
- Three by the President of the Los Angeles City Council

- One each by the Independent Cities Association, California Contract Cities Association and the League of California Cities
- Three ex-officio members, one appointed by each of the Los Angeles County (County) Chief Executive Officer, the County Sheriff and the Los Angeles City Police Department

Commission members do not receive compensation and the Executive Office of the Board provides the Commission with staff support. The Executive Office estimates that they provided approximately \$15,000 in supplies, parking and staff support to the Commission in Fiscal Year 2008-09.

JUSTIFICATION

From January 2007 to September 2009, the Commission met 27 times with an average attendance of 9 (45%) members. The Commission recognizes its low average attendance and is actively working to improve attendance by sending meeting reminders to Commission members, allowing teleconferencing for Commissioners who cannot physically attend meetings, and taking measures to fill vacancies (an average of six (29%) of the 21 member positions were vacant throughout the review period) and replace inactive Commissioners. Although the Commission's average attendance was low, the Commission successfully fulfilled its duties.

During this review period, the Commission's accomplishments included:

- Facilitated the transition of 911 cellular phone calls from the California Highway Patrol to local emergency response agencies. As a result, local agencies can respond faster to emergency cellular phone calls.
- Established a task force to improve procedures for issuing taxicab permits. The task force identified preliminary improvements to recommend to the Board of Supervisors, such as centralizing operations for driver background checks, licensing and vehicle inspections.
- Recommended an upgrade to the County's real estate asset management information system. The upgraded database would enable County agencies to identify unused County office space, storage facilities, etc. before purchasing or leasing additional space.

The Commission's objectives for the coming period are to:

- Coordinate with municipalities to recommend processing post-recycle solid waste into useful products, such as green fuels and renewable energy. This will reduce waste, landfill usage, greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel usage.

- Encourage unincorporated areas in the County to support Assembly Bill 222 to promote low-cost biofuels and green power.
- Develop best practices for green building standards (i.e., new construction that is water and energy efficient) for cities in the County.

Please call me if you have any questions.

WLW:MMO:JLS:TK

Attachments

- c: Tyler Kelley, Chair, Commission on Local Governmental Services
Robin A. Guerrero, Chief, Board Operations
Angie Montes, Acting Chief, Commission Services

COMMISSION SUNSET REVIEW
COMMISSION ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES
REVIEW COMMENTS

Mission. (Does the mission statement agree with the Board of Supervisors' purpose and expectations?)

The stated mission is as set forth in the Board order establishing the Commission. **CONCUR.**

Section 1. Relevance. (Is the mission still relevant and in agreement with the Board of Supervisors' purpose and expectations?)

The Commission identifies cost-effective and efficient alternatives for the delivery of multi-jurisdictional governmental services within the County.

The Commission's mission appears to be **RELEVANT.**

Section 2. Meetings and Attendance. (Are required meetings held and is attendance satisfactory?)

The Commission meets monthly. From January 2007 to September 2009, the Commission met 27 times with an average attendance of 9.4 (45%) members.

Although the Commission's meeting frequency is **SATISFACTORY**, the Commission's attendance is **UNSATISFACTORY.**

The Commission recognizes its low average attendance and is actively working to improve attendance by sending meeting reminders to Commission members, allowing teleconferencing for Commissioners who cannot physically attend meetings, and taking measures to fill vacancies (an average of six (29%) of the 21 member positions were vacant throughout the review period) and replace inactive Commissioners. Although the Commission's average attendance was low, the Commission successfully fulfilled its duties.

Sections 3 and 4. Accomplishments and Results. (Are listed accomplishments and results significant?)

During the evaluation period, the Commission's accomplishments included the following:

- Facilitated the transition of 911 cellular phone calls from the California Highway Patrol to local emergency response agencies. As a result, local agencies can respond faster to emergency cellular phone calls.

- Established a taskforce to improve procedures for issuing taxicab permits. The task force identified preliminary improvements to recommend to the Board of Supervisors, such as centralizing operations for driver background checks, licensing, and vehicle inspections.
- Recommended an upgrade to the County's real estate asset management information system. The upgraded database would enable County agencies to identify unused County office space, storage facilities, etc., before purchasing or leasing additional space.

The Commission's accomplishments and results are **SIGNIFICANT**.

Section 5. Objectives. (Are the objectives compatible with the mission and goals and relevant within the current County environment?)

The Commission's objectives for the coming period are to:

- Coordinate with municipalities to recommend processing post-recycle solid waste into useful products, such as green fuels and renewable energy. These conversion technologies reduce waste, landfill usage, greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel usage.
- Encourage unincorporated areas in the County to support Assembly Bill 222 to promote low-cost biofuels and green power.
- Develop best practices for green building standards (i.e., new constructions that are water and energy efficient) for cities in the County.

The Commission's future objectives appear **RELEVANT**.

Section 6. Resources. (Are the resources utilized by the entity in support of the entity's activities warranted in terms of the accomplishments and results?)

Commission members do not receive compensation. The Executive Office of the Board estimates that they provided approximately \$15,000 in supplies, parking, and staff support to the Commission in fiscal year 2008-09.

The Commission's expenses appear to be **WARRANTED**.

Section 7. Recommendation.

EXTEND THE SUNSET REVIEW DATE FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES TO DECEMBER 1, 2014.

Los Angeles County Commission on Local Governmental Services Attendance Record

Commissioner	Nominated by:	3/31/07	6/30/07	9/30/07	12/31/07	3/31/08	6/30/08	9/30/08	12/31/08	3/31/09	6/30/09	9/30/09	Totals	% Attended
Sharon Martinez	Number of Meetings per Quarter	2	1	1	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	27	
Thomas G. Wilhelm	1st District	0	1	1	1	0	1	0					4	27%
Vacant	1st District							2	3	3	2	3	13	93%
Mark Burman	1st District	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0%
Angela J. Reddock	2nd District	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	2	1	2	13	76%
Vacant	2nd District	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	2	2	2	3	21	78%
Shana E. Epstein	2nd District	1	1	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	0	2	14	52%
Jimmy Gomez	3rd District									2	3	2	7	88%
Kenneth D. Rozell	3rd District	2	1	1	2								6	86%
Vacant	3rd District					0	0	0	0				0	0%
Patricia G. Gray	4th District	2	0	0	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	3	22	81%
Richard Rosenthal	4th District	2	1	1	3	0	1	0	0				8	44%
Vacant	4th District									0	0	0	0	0%
Gordon Gray	5th District	2	0	0	2	2	3	2	3	0	3	2	19	70%
Algrid Leiga	5th District	2	1	1	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	26	96%
Rodrigo A. Guerra, Jr.	L.A. Mayor	1	0	0	2	0	2	1	1	1	2	1	11	41%
Vacant	L.A. Mayor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Jeanne Breunig	L.A. City Council	2	0	1	0	0	0						3	25%
Matthew J. Parlow	L.A. City Council	2	1	1	0	2	2	1					9	69%
Tyler Kelley	L.A. City Council	2	1	1	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	27	100%
Alexander Ponder	L.A. City Council						3	3	2	3	3	3	17	94%
Andrew J. Westall	L.A. City Council										2	1	3	50%
Vacant	L.A. City Council								0	0			0	0%
Barbara Calhoun	Independent Cities Assoc.							2	3	2	1	2	10	67%
Joyce Streater	Independent Cities Assoc.	0	0	0	0	0	0						0	0%
David Spence	CA Contract Cities Assoc.	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	7	28%
Barry Waite	League of CA Cities							2	2	2	3	2	11	73%
Vacant	League of CA Cities	0	0	0	0	0	0						0	0%
Ron Morales	L.A. County CEO	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	7%
Vacant	Sheriff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Vacant	L.A. Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Totals		23	8	8	20	12	28	30	30	29	31	34	253	
Average Attendance per Meeting													9.4	

Legend:

Vacancy was filled or Commissioner did not serve during this period.